Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 196964 ORIGIN SY-05

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FOLLOWING REPEAT PARIS 24098 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BAGHDAD 01 AUG 78 $\,$

QUOTE CONFIDENTIAL PARIS 24098

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: FR, IZ, PINS

SUBJECT: TERRORIST INCIDENT AT IRAQI

EMBASSY IN PARIS

1. THE JULY 31 TERRORIST INCIDENT AT THE IRAQI EMBASSY HERE CONCLUDED IN HIGHLY PECULIAR CIRCUMSTANCES; A FRENCH POLICEMAN WAS KILLED, APPARENTLY BY IRAQI SECURITY GUARDS, AFTER THE LONE TERRORIST HAD SURRENDERED AND WAS BEING ESCORTED BY FRENCH POLICE TO A WAITING VAN. THE FRENCH POLICE THEN RETURNED IRAQI FIRE AND KILLED AN EMBASSY SECURITY GUARD. THIS VERSION OF EVENTS HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED BY THE FRENCH POLICE, BUT THE IRAQI AMBASSADOR HERE HAS IMPLIED THAT THE GUNFIRE WHICH KILLED THE FRENCH POLICEMAN MAY ACTUALLY HAVE COME FROM UNIDENTIFIED ACCOMPLICES OF CONFIDENTIAL

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THE TERRORIST.

2. DESPITE THE IRRITATION OF THE POLICE, AND AN INDIGNANT REACTION BY THE PARIS PRESS, THE GOF IS PLAYING DOWN THE AFFAIR. THE POLICE HAVE TAKEN THREE IRAQI SECURITY GUARDS INTO CUSTODY AND ARE CARRYING OUT AN INVESTIGATION, BUT THE FRENCH HAVE AN INTEREST IN MAINTAINING THEIR GOOD RELATIONS WITH IRAQ AND OUR

OFFICIAL CONTACTS HAVE ASSURED US THAT THIS INCIDENT
WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO DAMAGE THOSE RELATIONS.
HARTMAN

UNQUOTE VANCE

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Subject: TERRORIST INCIDENT AT IRAQI EMBASSY IN PARIS

TAGS: PINS, FR, IZ

To: USSS Type: TE

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